

MAY '76  
35¢

WHY 26 MINERS DIED

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# GRASS ROOTS

PEOPLE'S  
MUSIC



COMMUNITY FIGHTS TO  
SAVE RADIO STATION

Penny Rosenwasser



# Panthers expose early CIA role in Angola, name agents

OAKLAND, Cal. — The Central Intelligence Agency escalated covert operations in Angola four months before the Soviet Union began aiding the Popular Movement for Liberation of Angola (MPLA), according to information obtained from the American embassy in Zaire by the Black Panther Party Intercommunal News Service.

This information contradicts President Ford's position that the U.S. was involved in Angola's civil war in reaction to Soviet intervention.

The embassy records show that by November, 1974, the CIA had 18 undercover officials in Kinshasa, capital of pro-American Zaire, the nation bordering Angola on the north. Zaire was a supply point for the pro-Western groups (the National Liberation Front for Angola and the National Union for Total Independence for Angola) which were defeated

in February. The Black Panthers printed the names and addresses of the alleged CIA undercover personnel in the March 27th issue of their newspaper. Philip Agee, the ex-CIA official working to expose covert U.S. military activities, has verified the identification of the 18 Zaire agents and has turned their names over to MPLA representatives in London.

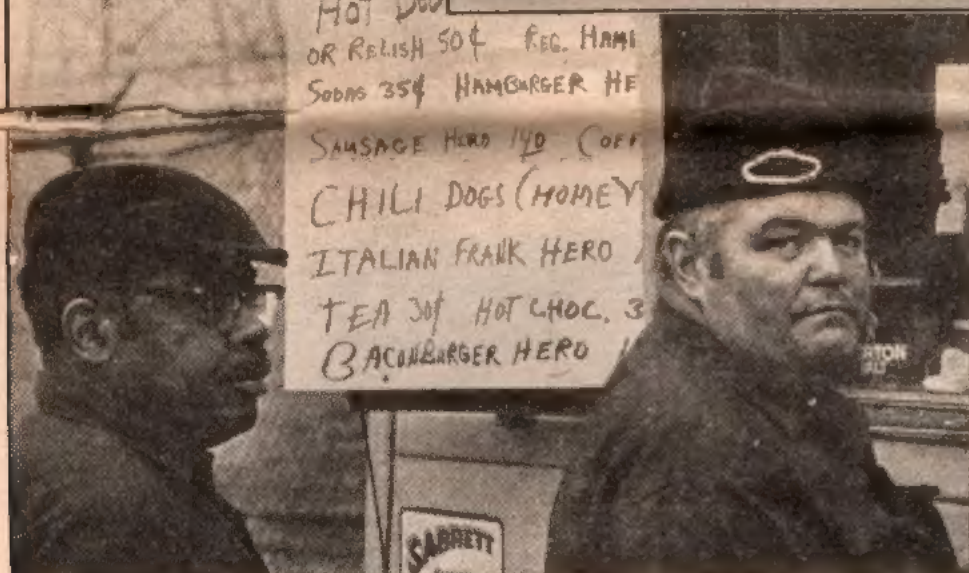
"The official U.S. records for Zaire, which date from November, 1974, show an unexpectedly large American presence, including diplomats, military advisers and employees of the Agency for International Development (AID)," the Panthers reported, adding that "of those named in these various posts at least 18 can be identified as members of the CIA team, which is headed by a long-time veteran of Agency operations in Laos and Indonesia, Stuart E. Methvin."



MPLA youths (Above). Anti-MPLA arms shipped via Zaire (Inset).

LNS Women's Graphics

## Rank-and-file Teamsters say new contract "stinks"



STRIKING TEAMSTERS IN BAYONNE, N.J.

CLEVELAND, Oh.—The Teamsters are back at work under a new national contract, but many militant union members are angry about the agreement and the union hierarchy that negotiated it.

"We think the new contract stinks," a rank and file organizer told Grass Roots. "It's a sellout on all the issues that we have been struggling over."

Teamsters for a Decent Contract, a rank and file organization within the union, is working to defeat the national contract when members vote on it. TDC calls for a contract which would provide a more responsive griev-

ance procedure, increased job security, and an end to forced overtime.

"Most Teamsters don't care as much about money as they do about these other issues," a TDC organizer said. "Right now drivers can be required to work up to 70 hours in an eight day period, without extra pay."

TDC wants all overtime beyond the 40 hour week to be voluntary. It also calls for an "innocent until proven guilty" clause in the grievance procedure, to keep employers from firing workers before grievances are heard. TDC seeks an end to the use of "casual workers" who can be hired for up to 29 days without seniority rights or contract benefits. Employers use casual workers to replace full-time employees.

## Angry N.Y. parents sit in for weeks

NEW YORK (LNS)—Militant parents of Manhattan school children occupied several school offices around the clock for more than a month this spring in a confrontation over education cutbacks and the issue of community control. By April, the protesters had won one round against the Central School Board which has traditionally opposed all efforts toward community control. Classes continued through the sit-ins.

The fight began last fall when the School Board announced that school would be closed 1 2:15 instead of 3:00 on Monday and Friday in all city schools. The plan was part of a general education cutback. By sitting in at P.S. 87, parents were able to pressure their district school board to defy the city's Central School Board and leave schools open until 3:00.

Pressure from parents also caused the local district to reverse its decision to close two schools in Harlem. Seven hundred parents and children marched on March 25 to the two schools that were threatened with closing, and on to the State Office Building in Harlem.





# UAW caucus builds resistance to a Woodcock summer sellout

Worker's Power photo

DETROIT-- A coalition of United Auto Workers union members are building a movement to reject the weak contract they fear UAW President Leonard Woodcock will negotiate this summer with Chrysler, Ford and General Motors

The rank-and-file movement, called Coalition for a Good Contract (CGC), met here March 20 following the UAW's Collective Bargaining Convention at which union leaders made no specific commitments on negotiation goals.

Union officials witnessed, but ignored, rank-and-file demonstrations and demands for a contract that would provide cost-of-living allowances on pensions, a shorter work week (32 hours for 40 hours pay) and retirement after 25 years for coke oven workers who run a high risk of getting lung cancer from breathing coke fumes over many years.

The CGC is united around a set of contract demands on job security, income protection and working conditions, the most important being the shorter work week. Jack Weinberg of UAW



RANK AND FILE DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE UAW COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONVENTION

Local 212, a CGC founder, told the meeting, "You can't wait until the contract expires to begin organizing." The coalition is

now forming local groups and circulating pledge cards.

Signers pledge to vote "no" on any contract that does not meet

CGC demands, and back up their pledges with financial contributions.

--Worker's Power

## N.O.W. Prez hits grand jury jailings

WASHINGTON — Karen DeCrow, president of the National Organization of Women (NOW), added her voice last month to the growing national protest against the jailing of three women who refuse to answer grand jury and F.B.I. questions.

DeCrow, whose recent re-election reportedly reflects support for NOW's left shift, was featured speaker at a press conference outside the Justice Department sponsored by the New York-based Grand Jury Project and the Women's Division of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries.

The press conference was followed up by demonstrations in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, New Haven, San Francisco, Denver and other cities protesting the current incarceration of Jill Raymond of Lexington, Ky., who refuses to answer question in connection with the Susan Saxe case, JoAnna LeDeaux, a Native American active in the Wounded Knee struggle, and Veronica Vigil, a Chicana activist from Denver. Raymond has been in jail for over a year.



KAREN DeCROW



JILL RAYMOND

## Poststrike supporters picket opening of "President's Men"

WASHINGTON (LNS)—Over 400 striking Washington Post press operators, families and supporters picketed the world premiere of "All the President's Men" here last month.

While film stars, dignitaries and journalists watched the \$8 million Warner Bros. movie glorifying the Post's exposure of the Watergate cover-up, a militant rally demanded to know "Who's going to investigate the Washington Post union-busting cover-ups?"

Demonstrators carried signs and chanted "Boycott the Post," "Post lies, pressman dies," referring to the suicide of John Clauss, 50, a striking press operator faced with the loss of his job and the Post's black-listing him so near retirement.

The demonstration kicked off a national campaign to investigate the American Newspaper Publisher Association's systematic union busting campaign and build support for pressmen facing grand jury indictments for allegedly damaging Post presses.







"Yippie '76"

Bruce Fritts, Madison Capital Times

mists Club while Wallace was speaking. He got within four feet of Wallace, stuck out the mask and said, "Howdy, Governor." Masei said that, contrary to press reports, Wallace did not take it calmly. It took the Secret Service about five seconds to grab Masei and hustle him from the hall, one agent saying to another, "Don't rough him up yet." Wallace supporters jeered Masei, shouting "Get out of here you creep," and "Take a bath."

Demonstrators wearing Bre-

ference to the Yippies' charge that Carter's campaign intervened in a federal grand jury investigation of cocaine traffic centering around one of the ex-governor's chief financial directors, Phil Walden, president of Atlanta/Macon Records.

Carter, asked by a Yipster Times reporter at a Miami airport press conference about the alleged cocaine cover-up, denied the charges, adding, "I only know what I read in the Yipster Times."

Masei, who intends to act as his own attorney in the spitting case, could get a \$200 fine and be jailed for 90 days if found guilty.

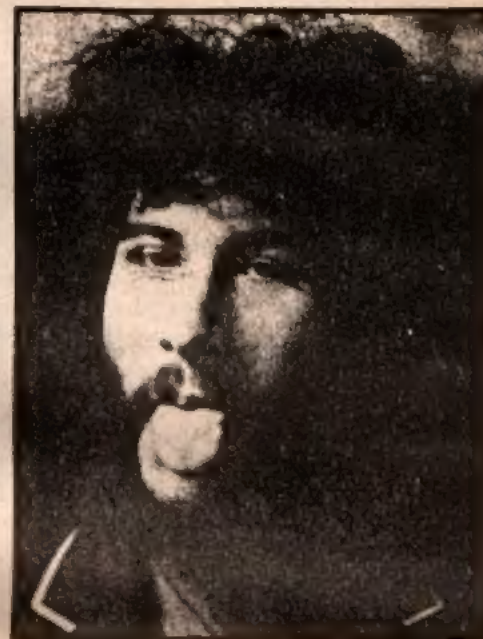
## Acts of outrage?

No less than the Senate and Democratic presidential front-runner Jimmy Carter acknowledged last month that the Yippies are back, apparently inspired by the national media focused on the 1976 campaign. But their tactics are grim in nature compared to the slapstick antics of Campaigns '68 and '72.

The Senate was angered to learn that one of its members, Sen. Henry Jackson, was spit on by a Yipster Times reporter, Ben Masei, during a primary campaign stop in Madison, Wisconsin. The full Senate condemned "the cruel and reprehensible action of a gang of common thugs."

The spitting incident was only one of several recent actions undertaken by the New York-based Youth International Party, publishers of the Yipster Times. The Yippies' other well-publicized Madison action was against George Wallace. Masei, with his Yipster Times press card and an Arthur Bremer mask hidden under his coat, got into a meeting of the Madison Opti-

mer masks and pushing wheelchairs greeted Wallace at another rally. Roney Sorenson, a radical member of the Madison City Council, stood next to the demonstration with a sign reading, "Go home, Racist." He was censured by the City Council. While campaigning in Madison, Carter faced 200 demonstrators, some of them carrying "Coke Freaks for Carter" signs, a re-



BEN MASEI

## U.S. church support grows for Cuba

A church-related organization aimed at strengthening American ties with Cuba has labelled the Ford administration's Cuba policy as not only unrealistic but unjust.

The group, the New York-based Cuba Resource Center, said Ford has been using an anti-Cuba position "to garner conservative support for his presidency."

In a well-publicized speech in Miami Ford listed three conditions for the re-establishment of Cuba-U.S. relations: that Cuba withdraw its support for Puerto Rican independence; that Cuba withdraw its forces from Angola; and that Cuba discontinue any support it is giving to liberation struggles in other Latin American countries.

"Mr. Ford is ignoring the fact that Cuba is a sovereign nation with the right to exercise an independent foreign policy," CRC said.

"It is presumptuous of the U.S. to try to dictate the foreign policy of a nation against which it has maintained a complete, unilateral and punitive embargo for 14 years," the ecumenical group said.

The group noted that church bodies in both the United States and Cuba have been urging restoration of normal relations between the two countries.

As recently as 1973, the National Council of Churches, representing some 30 Protestant and Orthodox groups in the United States, labelled as "questionable" the continuance of U.S. hostility toward Cuba in the face of changing relations with the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union.

## Schorr: CBS has class bias in news

Daniel Schorr, the TV journalist recently suspended by CBS for releasing the secret House report on the CIA, said in a recent interview, "The real bias on TV is not a political bias, it's a class bias. For example, when I found that the government was about to raise the cost of Medicare premiums, I couldn't get the story on the air. The Cronkite crowd couldn't care less. Twenty million people were affected, and the Westport crowd didn't care."



PETER CAMEJO, SWP PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

## FBI says it will keep eye on SWP

Despite the sensational disclosure of FBI-sanctioned burglaries and disruption against the Socialist Workers Party, the FBI intends to continue its intelligence effort against the Trotskyist organization, a recently released government document shows.

The document, released by the Political Rights Defense Fund, states that the FBI will continue to investigate known and suspected members of the party because of concern that "members of subversive groups will at some future time, gain responsible positions not only in government but also in industry and education."

According to officials of the PRDF, which is organizing the SWP's \$27 million suit against the government, the FBI claim is an exact parallel to the Cointelpro operations which the FBI claims were discontinued in 1971.

During the Cointelpro disruption program, FBI agents across the country targeted SWP members and supporters as well as "extremists" of all political persuasions for a wide variety of attacks — including opening mail, sending anonymous letters containing false information, slanders, or simply statements intended to set one left group against another.

"The FBI in 1976 asserts the right to keep track of people to prevent them from getting or keeping jobs," according to the PRDF.



## Fighting back in New York



In a budgetcutting move, New York City is scratching many urban redevelopment plans and trying to sell low-rent apartment buildings it owns and operates through the Housing Development Administration. Tenants in 13 buildings have been ordered to vacate by July 1. The Arias family (five of whose members are pictured above) was given even less notice. A marshall and movers arrived without notice early one morning in February and told they that they had to leave at once for failure to pay back rent. Though Mr. Arias, who was unemployed, owed only \$50 in rent, the HDA was demanding \$700 and the moving company said it would keep the family's

furniture until a \$300 moving fee was paid. With help from the New York City Unemployed Council, neighborhood support was rallied and 30 people marched to the local HDA office with a stay of eviction obtained by the Council. The group demanded that the HDA recognize that only \$50 was owed and that the furniture be returned without cost. Subsequent hearings, presided over by a hostile judge, revealed that the eviction had been illegal. To date, the judge has failed to rule on the case. The Arias family is still living in the apartment, paying no rent pending the decision. They were able to reclaim their furniture for a moving fee of \$5.



Continental Walkers carry banners symbolizing the hundreds of warheads carried by Trident submarines during protest near San Francisco.

## Continental Walk goes through changes

Organizers of the 3-month-old Continental Walk for Disarmament, halted the march for three days near Santa Barbara for a discussion and criticism session that resulted in some marchers leaving the group. Since then life on the march is said to be smooth and locally sponsored anti-military events have popped up along the way.

In Las Cruces, New Mexico, just outside the White Sands nuclear testing grounds, there was a rally April 22 as the group of walkers from El Paso joined the main march.

The marchers were expected to reach Albuquerque by May 9th.

Walk organizers told Grass Roots that the response along the way has been "quite good." The walk has received good local and regional publicity, and a number of local organizing

Although most of the long-distance walkers are young people, six monks from the efforts have been very successful.

Japanese peace movement are also walking the complete distance to Washington, D.C., where the walk is scheduled to arrive October 16. Plans are underway for a major demonstration on that date, with walks from San Francisco, New Orleans, and Boston arriving at the same time.

Much of the emphasis of the walk is on local issues and local organizing. While walk organizers try to link up national and international issues with issues in the towns and cities the walk passes through, local issues are determined by people in the communities themselves. Local actions have included rallies, concerts, and demonstrations at nuclear power plants.

The Continental Walk is calling for fundamental structural changes in society, including "basic social justice," a serious reduction in arms, and sexual, racial, and economic equality.



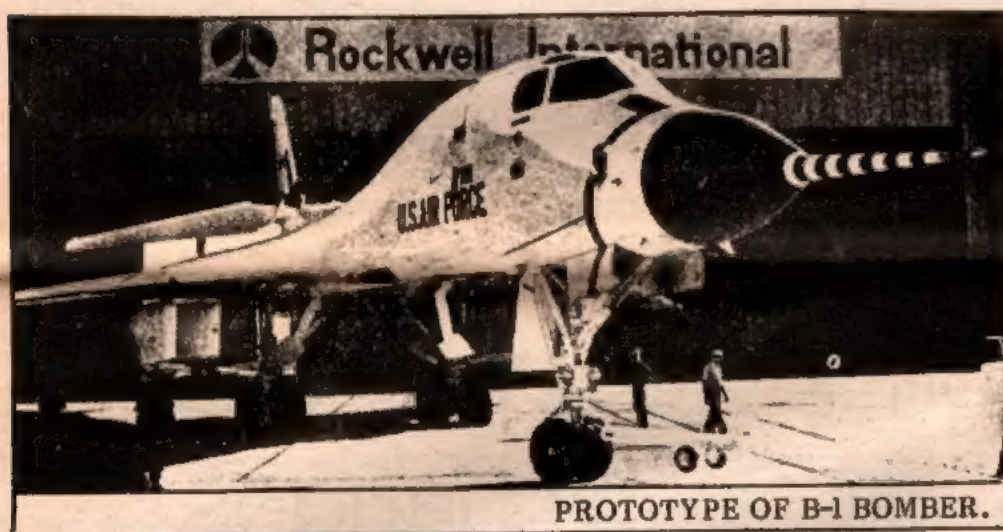
## July 4th demonstrations set for Washington, Philly

July 4th may shed light on that perennial mystery, "How big is the Movement?" Major demonstrations have been called for that day in Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia. The mushrooming People's Bicentennial Commission (PBC) has been organizing the D.C. demo for months and predicts a crowd of 250,000 will gather at the Capitol to "send a message to Wall Street" that people want economic independence from the large corporations.

Organizers of the Philadelphia demonstration hope at the same time to draw thousands to protest the "official" Bicentennial celebration at which President Ford will preside. The July Fourth Coalition is made up of a growing number of left groups (at least 64 at the latest count) including the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, American Indian Movement, War Resisters League, National Alliance Against Racist and Political Oppression, People's Party and several labor organizations and left publications. Philadelphia Mayor Frank Rizzo won't grant a permit to the coalition which says it will march without one. The theme of the march is the celebration of unity among Americans' in struggle for economic and social justice.

U.S. Park Police are already preparing for the Washington de-

operating directly atop an active fault zone in Eureka, California, for over 12 years . . . And, the New York State Public Service Commission is planning a study this summer to decide which is more economical: nuclear energy or fossil fuel.



monstrators, though the official line is that the Weather Underground has threatened to "bring the fireworks" to Washington for America's 200th birthday and that police must be ready for terrorist activities.

The Federation of American Scientists in surveying its members has discovered that two-thirds of them favor a complete halt to construction or phasing out of all nuclear power plants in the U.S. . . . Meanwhile, government scientists are reviewing charges made last month that one of the country's oldest nuclear power plants has been

Sources close to the National Black Assembly (NBA) say U.S. Rep. Ron Dellums (D.-Cal.) may still say yes to that group's bid to run him as an independent presidential candidate. Dellums turned down the invitation at NBA's March convention in Cincinnati. (See NBA story, Page 10.)

Despite the Supreme Court's 1972 ruling that the death penalty was imposed in discriminatory ways under many state laws of that time, a new study shows that non-whites are more likely than ever to find themselves on

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



## MAY 19

death row. Though no one has been executed in the U.S. since 1967, 460 inmates in 34 states have been sentenced to die pending a new Supreme Court ruling on the constitutionality of state laws passed since '72. Marc Riedel, the University of Pennsylvania sociologist who conducted the study, says, "Our preliminary data leads us to suspect that minorities primarily get the mandatory sentence."

The Senate will decide this month whether to authorize construction of the B-1 Bomber, the most expensive weapons system in recorded history. The national Campaign to Stop the B-1 says the only thing that can now stop construction is a strong vote in the Senate in favor of Sen. George McGovern's amendment to reject the \$1-billion needed to start the first three planes in November. The Campaign says that the heat must really be put on the Senate at this time, or there is little chance that the nine-year project, consisting of building 244 planes costing \$86 million each, will be stopped. Some 37 groups are now lobbying against the bomber. For information, contact the Campaign at 235 W. 49th St., New York, N.Y. 10017 or call (212) 371-7188.

An 18-member board of clergy and laypeople from Unitarian Universalist churches in the Boston area have told the judge and other public officials involved in the Susan Saxe bank robbery trial that there is strong concern that the revolutionary lesbian will not get a fair trial because of adverse publicity. "We believe that the political beliefs, sexual preferences and lifestyle of an individual have nothing to do with their guilt or innocence before the law, yet the media continually emphasizes these aspects of the case," the group said.

Movement for a New Society, a national communications network of local collectives trying to build a decentralized mass movement for nonviolent revolution, will conduct a series of workshops on community organizing and organization building in Philadelphia, May 12-29. Registration will range from \$85 to \$120 depending on registrants' incomes. Early workshops will concentrate on skills useful during the two-week session: group process, personal growth and decision making, community building, facilitation of meetings, sexism and conflict resolution. Later workshops will include: campaign building and direct action, street speaking, analysis and strategy for social change, nonviolent theory and application of skills to local situations. Participants will build their own community for their two-week stay.

For information, write: May General Training Program, 254 S. Farragut St., Philadelphia, PA 19143.

Though far from being a Marxist tract, a more progressive kind of economics textbook is making its way into a few American classrooms. It's a textbook in comic book form written by a teacher Steven Jackstandt,



and published by Follett Publishers which says it has sold 5,600 copies to high schools since the book appeared in January. The text, called "Superheroes of Macroeconomics," takes less than a reverend look at the monetary theories expounded by today's Western economists. The company claims that despite some criticism that the approach is too simplistic, it has received generally positive responses and will probably produce more comic-texts.

A Fort Worth, Texas, citizens' group is circulating petitions to recall a majority of the city council for failure to oppose consumer increases from Lone Star Gas and other companies.

## GRASS ROOTS

GRASS ROOTS is published monthly for the People's Party by Grass Roots, No. 1 Thomas Circle, Washington, D.C., 20005. Subscriptions are \$5 for 12 issues, \$15 for institutions, free to prisoners. Vol. 5 No. 4.

GRASS ROOTS is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate and subscribes to Liberation News Service.





Penny Rosenwasser

Mary Trevor and Jeanne Mackey at recent Washington, D.C. concert.

# The new people's music: a workingclass hero is something to be

By BOB NEWMAN  
and BRIAN DOHERTY

At their recent concert in Washington, D.C., Mary Trevor and Jeanne Mackey, who several weeks earlier had completed a Midwest tour, electrified the crowd with a fine blend of songs and music. Backed by a solid group of women musicians and singers, Trevor and Mackey sang songs of women, of working people, and of liberation movements around the world. But they also sang of love affairs, friendships, and the struggle for personal survival in today's society, closing the show with Jimmy Cliff's reggae song, "You Can Get It If You Really Want."

Three weeks later, Mary and Jeanne gave another performance, this time at an evening demonstration at the Kennedy Center world premiere of the film "All The President's Men." The demonstration was in support of striking press operators at the Washington Post, and Trevor and Mackey led a shivering crowd of strikers and supporters in singing "Hard Times are Fighting Times" and other songs. Although this crowd was somewhat smaller than the one they had entertained several weeks before, Trevor and Mackey put no

less into their performance, and the response they received was warm and enthusiastic. The singers were obviously doing what they do best, and the crowd felt a part of this.

The same week that Trevor and Mackey sang at the Kennedy Center demonstration, singer Holly Near appeared in nearby Baltimore to a sell-out crowd. Near's current national tour, which has been sponsored in part by the Chile Solidarity Committee, coincides with the release of her latest album, "You Can Know All I Am." While Trevor and Mackey are relatively unknown outside of the Washington area, Holly Near has had a number of national tours, and her records sell thousands of copies. Yet these three musicians are part of the same talented and energetic movement—people's music.

There's a new kind of music happening in a variety of different ways in a whole lot of places around the country. You won't read about it in Rolling Stone, because the people making the music are not backed by the "entertainment" conglomerates that bankroll that magazine. Indeed, most of the people making this new kind of music call for the elimination of these and other companies that make up

the capitalist system.

It's a type of music that can loosely be called "people's music." It's being practised, performed, and perfected by people who are tied to day to day work in the women's, labor, and anti-imperialist movements. It draws on a rich history of left music in America, a tradition which gave us people like the Almanacs, Pete Seeger and Malvina Reynolds. The banding together of artists into such groups as People's Music, Inc., in the forties, is an indication of the roots that people's music had begun to develop before the witch hunts of the fifties virtually wiped out non-conforming music.

What's happening now is a new wave of people's music, a music that cannot conveniently be labelled "protest music," although the lines are often sharply drawn in the lyrics, and the solutions become increasingly clear. Unlike the music of previous decades, however, there is an emphasis on the personal as it relates to the political, and a willingness to incorporate forms of music other than folk to get the message across. There is a message being delivered via rock, jazz, and even, in the case of the increasingly popular Holly Near, an almost night-club like

"popular" style.

Singers and musicians in this new wave of people's music are starting to talk with each other, to link up city to city, trade material, and more often than not promote each other.

There is the beginning of a system of organized support workers, technicians who can get together, promote, and pull off a concert that will make rather than lose money. This is one of the more exciting developments of the seventies' people's music—the development of alternative production and distribution outlets for new music.

Without a doubt, women's music is in the forefront of the people's music movement. Almost universally it is women musicians who are recording the best albums, performing the most, and reaching the largest audience. A recent concert in California, billed as "An Evening of Women's Music," attracted 1500 women. The featured musicians—Cris Williamson, Margie Adam, Meg Christian and Holly Near—are all significant performers. Williamson and Christian have both released woman-produced records on Olivia Records, a woman-run and owned





Meg Christian

## ...people's music

record company. Their music is generally woman-oriented, and tends to include mainly songs about love and living.

Near, on the other hand, has only recently become identified with the women's movement; she began as an activist and singer for the Indochina Peace Campaign, an anti-war group of the early '70s. She has developed an increasingly strong women's emphasis, and her recent concerts have been very much woman-identified. Near is perhaps as close as the people's music movement comes to having a "star." Her latest album has projected sales of 20,000, and while this is nothing for most popular musicians, for the people's music movement it is quite impressive. In fact, Near has received some criticism from radicals for delivering a polished and professional performance in which the politics are sometimes not overly apparent.

The women's music movement is strong and growing in a number of cities, most notably Washington, D.C., Boston, and on the West Coast. In Washington, Casse Culver and Willie Tyson, two top-notch musicians, have been playing concerts and coffeehouses for a number of years. Tyson's album, "Full Count," is an excellent collection of women's folk songs. Casse Culver is a people's musician who has been involved in the "straight" music world. Formerly under contract to Warner Brothers' Bearsville Records, she is now singing and playing on her own, and is preparing to record her first, long-awaited album.

Washington is also the home of the women's band Lucha, a solid group which plays at a variety of places around the city. A number of Lucha's musicians played with Mary Trevor and Jeanne Mackey at their recent concert. An indication of the strength of the D.C. people's music scene was the community

response to a recent concert featuring Cris Williamson, Casse Culver, and Trevor and Mackey. Tickets for the concert sold out in one week, and a second show had to be arranged.

Olivia Records is the prime force in the West Coast women's music scene. Along with Williamson and Christian, Margie Adam and Kay Gardner have been producing excellent blend of folk and classical music, and have been receiving critical acclaim.

Although women's music plays an important role in the people's music movement, there are many other talented performers around the country. Si Kahn and the Mountain Musicians Cooperative are attempting to combine traditional folk/country music with contemporary lyrics about male/female relationships, gay oppression, and the lives of working people. Kahn's "Truck Driving Woman" is a popular song which has been performed by many other musicians, most notably Mary Trevor and Jeanne Mackey. The song describes a woman truck driver who is "90 pounds of steel on a five-foot frame."

Some other musicians who are attempting to combine people's music into a traditional format are Hazel Dickens and Alice Gerrard, who have been playing together for 20 years. Hazel and Alice have a number of albums, and have been playing their brand of country/bluegrass music with great success recently around the country.

Utah Phillips is a folk singer in the traditional mold, who has been involved in the radical movement for many years. Phillips generally sings songs and ballads of the West—of trains, hoboes, cowboys and the lives of working people. He has recorded two excellent albums on Philo, a small record label in Vermont dedicated to giving the artist complete control over her or his recording. Phillips has done benefits and concerts for a wide

variety of groups, and once even ran himself for Senator from Utah.

In many ways the people's music movement has failed to expand into more contemporary music, such as soul, rhythm and blues, and rock and roll. Part of this can be attributed to the generally white orientation of the movement. Bernice Reagon is an exception to this. She is a forceful gospel/folk singer, who sings traditional material as well as songs such as "Joann Little." Barbara Dane is another people's musician who performs blues-music.

Rock and roll has only recently begun to appear as a people's music form. Three groups in particular—the Red Star Singers from Berkeley, Bev Grant and the Human Condition from New York, and the Red Shadow Band from Boston—have been working to integrate current popular music with revolutionary lyrics and politics. The Red Star Singers have unfortunately broken up, but while they were together they performed at many rallies on the West Coast, and gave the people's movement one of its finest songs, "Force of Life." The Red Shadow Band has recorded an album of parody, blending Beach Boys-type music with a series of left-wing jokes.

Bev Grant and the Human Condition have been relatively successful in performing popular rock and roll from a people's perspective, even appearing at a number of popular New York City area clubs. Their album, "Working People Gonna Rise"



Willie Tyson

combines some solid music and powerful singing with lyrics like "We've been victims all our lives, now it's time we ORGANIZED/ To fight we're gonna need each others' hand." Bev Grant and the Human Condition performed at this winter's Hard Times Conference, and were enthusiastically received by everyone there.

As the people's music movement develops, people are learning not only musical skills, but also technical aspects. Recent



Kay Gardner

people's concerts have featured excellent sound and production work, as the movement rapidly learns that there is more to good music than just the musician. Womansound, a woman-run business in Washington, D.C., has been operating for eight months and providing excellent sound for women's concerts, rallies, and demonstrations. People's musicians are learning promotion, recording, and other skills.

In addition to the development of performing skills, the movement has also developed a healthy recording scene. There are quite a number of people's record companies, including Olivia, Rounder, Paredon, Philo, Redwood and others. Rounder, a collective in Somerville, Massachusetts, is perhaps the most successful, having recorded a wide variety of traditional, bluegrass, country and folk record labels. Some labels, such as Redwood, are basically for one musician (in this case Holly Near), although many musicians appear on her albums and the work is done collectively. Paredon, on the other hand has recorded a large number of people's musicians in this country, as well as from around the world. As this movement has grown and matured, the recording quality of these small companies has improved to the point that today many are of better quality than many popular recordings.

One unique distribution network is the New Music Distribution Service, located in New York City. Part of the Jazz Composers' Orchestra, NMDS distributes a broad line of avant-garde jazz and classical music performed on a wide array of tiny independent labels. Although the music is not "political" in the traditional sense of featuring stirring lyrics, much of it is revolutionary in a musical sense, breaking open new fields of black music.

(continued on next page)



As the people's music movement has grown, so has the development of people's record stores, collectively owned and operated. These stores, such as Record Service in Champaign-Urbana, the Kent Community Store in Kent, Ohio, and Bread and Roses in Washington, D.C., have provided an outlet for people's musicians to be heard. Bread and Roses, for example, has not only sold people's music, but has sponsored a number of local concerts. As the movement grows to bring music back to the people, and eliminate its success-oriented aspects, worker-controlled record stores are a significant attempt to reach a mass audience.

The question remains how does the people's music movement fit into the radical movement as a whole? Historically, many musicians who have had their beginnings with left audiences have sold out and abandoned politics for success. Doesn't the people's music movement contain these same flaws? Will Holly Near get a recording contract with Warner Brothers and become the next Bonnie Raitt? Will Bev Grant be playing large auditoriums as the opening act for the Rolling Stones? Not likely. The new people's musicians are rooted in the struggle. Holly Near, for example, recently considered a major recording contract, but rejected it because "the industry approached me as though the ultimate goal was to be a rich and glamorous star." Other musicians, including Cris Williamson, Meg Christian, and Casse Culver have rejected positions in the popular music world to sing for the people.

How do more commercial, "big name" musicians relate to the people's music movement? A number of musicians, while pursuing straight musical careers, have devoted large amounts of time to the people's movement. Arlo Guthrie, Peter Yarrow, Bonnie Raitt and the rock group Orleans have done numerous benefit concerts for a wide variety of movement groups. Raitt, for example, did a nation-wide tour for the Indochina Peace Campaign. But while these musicians have devoted much energy, they continue to deal with the music business establishment and all that it represents.

The people's music movement has injected the left with a new vitality, and has given it a more human emphasis which it has frequently lacked. People's musicians have been involved in organizing benefits, rallies, demonstrations and community projects, as well as being involved in strike support work.

The people's music movement is growing, there are no doubts about that. At this point, the artists and technicians are developing a set of valuable skills, and the quality is improving. Where the movement has failed, however, is in developing revolution-

ary music forms. At this point the music is too often in the socialist realism mold. Women singers have begun developing a significant fusion between politics and personal life in songs, and Kay Gardner has done some break-through musical work as well. The people's music movement has demonstrated that it can reach a mass audience, but it must now begin to develop its own musical forms that can break away from those developed by popular music.

The people's music movement reflects an increasing emphasis within the left on the integration of cultural and political struggles. People's musicians are broadening and strengthening the left and women's communities, while continuing to develop personal skills. This new music movement is one of the most exciting developments in recent years. "The times, they are a-changin'," and the people's music movement is an important part of that change.



Santa Barbara News and Review

Cris Williamson and Margie Adam

## Dellums nixes presidential bid; Black Assembly keeps looking

The National Black Political Assembly (NBA) will continue its search for an independent black presidential candidate following U.S. Rep. Ron Dellums' refusal of a draft nomination at the NBA's convention in March.

"I am unequivocal in my desire not to run. This is not my role and not my moment," the California Democrat told the delegates at the Cincinnati convention. He had been nominated as the candidate of the Independent Freedom Party (IFP), a national black political party which will work for ballot status and local candidacies in states which have no black parties.

The convention was marked by the absence of black officeholders among the 900 delegates and observers. Most conventioners were students and young working people, with some community agency directors, prominent professors and intellectuals present.

The politics of the draft platform submitted for approval by the convention are mixed. There is no mention of women's rights in the draft document, which calls for "nationalization of all our means of production" and home rule for majority-black Washington, D.C. The education section of the platform reaffirms the right of blacks to attend any school, but adds that priority should be given to black education in the black community. This section also states that if black students are to be bused outside of the black community, it should be "to superior schools only."

The Cincinnati convention

cent white, Puerto Rican, Chicano, native American, and Asian-American.

Although the convention voted to undertake an independent black presidential campaign with a progressive platform, the NBA has been careful not to mount a frontal attack on the two major parties. An NBA press release noted that the convention had united to "build an independent black political power force which the two dominant parties will have to deal with." NBA organizers maintain that many blacks continue to identify with the Democrats and are not ready for a complete split.

In January, NBA organizers announced a move to draft Georgia Democrat Julian Bond as their presidential candidate. Bond declined to campaign actively prior to the Cincinnati convention, and the day before it opened he went on national radio to announce that he was turning down the draft as premature.

"Black voters are unprepared to support an independent candidacy," Bond asserted.

Dellums was more supportive of the idea of an independent candidacy, but maintained that his most valuable service would be inside the Democratic Party, where he can work at "crystallizing the contradictions."

The question of the NBA/IFP presidential candidate will be taken up again at the NBA's followup meeting on May 22. Final work on the draft platform will be conducted at this meeting.



was organized by the NBA, which has been working to develop a '76 Strategy for its political work this year. The strategy, as ratified by the convention, calls basically for an independent black presidential candidate running on a progressive platform.

The NBA has contacted a number of groups on the left, including People's Party, Mass Party Organizing Committee, New American Movement, Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and the American Indian Movement. Discussion with these groups has centered around the creation of the National Committee for People's Politics (NCPP), a multi-nationality grouping intended to implement the '76 Strategy.

The makeup of the NCPP as approved by the convention will be 51 percent black and 49 per-





LNS staffers in their meeting room.

## Liberation News Service 9 years after

By PETER POCOCK

The basement of a rundown building on Manhattan's upper west side is an unlikely headquarters for a national news network. But Liberation News Service, the radical media's answer to UPI, is no ordinary news organization.

"We try to get out as much information as we can that isn't covered by the straight press," a member of the LNS staff collective told *Grass Roots*. "They won't talk about the real problems of our society, like poverty, sexism, racism, job exploitation, and U.S. corporate and military intervention around the world."

LNS sees the news and information in their twice-weekly newspackets as an organizing tool for groups who are trying to convey a radical perspective to a mass audience. "We want to show not just the problems, but also what people all over are doing about them," a staff member noted. They send out 425 copies of each packet to alternative papers, radio stations, community and rank and file organizing projects, bookstores, and resource groups.

The thirteen member collective puts together each packet in a two-day period. The process begins with an editorial meeting in the central room of the office, which also serves as lounge, eating area, and general workspace. Here the last packet is discussed critically and the next one planned. Work on the packet is broken down into three departments: editorial, which provides the written copy; graphics, which is responsible for drawings, photographs, and

charts; and printing, which prints the packet on an elderly press in the back room. The press is also used to print materials for local movement groups.

"We try to work collectively in all our operations," a staff member pointed out. "Our editing is completely collective — every story that we write is edited by at least two other members of the staff." Major editorial decisions are made by the whole collective, although there is specialization on the staff, with graphics and editorial work done by different people. The printers also do editorial work.

Ideas for news and graphics are drawn from television and radio news, several establishment papers and magazines, hundreds of alternative papers from all over the country, and word of mouth. Once the story ideas are agreed upon, a staff member gets as close as possible to the source. Usually this is done by phone, since the tight budget won't support much travel.

Often the best local contact for pursuing a story is an LNS subscriber in the area. Otherwise calls are made to the person or group being written about, or anyone who might have more information. Some stories and graphics are reprinted directly from alternative papers, when the staff feels they should reach a wider audience.

LNS was founded in Washington in 1967, growing out of frustration and anger over the straight press coverage of the March on the Pentagon. A year later the news service moved to the Manhattan basement office. A split in the staff over issues of politics and lifestyle occurred in late 1968, before any of the

current staff members joined the collective. Operations in the Manhattan office continued, while part of the staff moved to a Massachusetts farm where they briefly published their own news packet.

Each of the nine women and four men on the staff earns \$40 for a 50 hour week, supplemented by meals, paid for by LNS, which they eat together when working. All have joined the staff since 1971, coming from a variety of backgrounds. Most had some experience in political work, and some had worked on publications such as the Washington Daily Rag, the Lancaster

Independent Press, and the United Farmworkers paper.

"We come from the movement of the '60s, and we're getting stronger in the '70s," a staff member said, discussing the future of LNS and the alternative media. "The alternative press is a reflection of the strength or weakness of the movement to rebuild our society. Every day we get letters from people and groups who are starting papers, newsletters, bookstores. The alternative press is growing, and LNS will keep on reaching out to the people and groups that are making it happen."

## New York City Star paper for non-l

By GRASS ROOTS STAFF

New York City — the heart of America. It's here that the American system is most noticeably falling apart. The streets are choked with garbage, drivers no longer obey traffic laws, and the poor and working people of the city are watching the cost of living skyrocket beyond their reach. In response to budget cuts in education and social services, the people of New York are taking things in their own hands, occupying schools and physically preventing the eviction of families from their homes. Here in this most American of cities, where all the contradictions of America are laid bare, people are organizing and struggling to build alternatives to the decay and rot. The New York City Star, the city's only city-wide alternative radical paper, has been struggling since 1973 as a part of this movement.

The City Star's office is in a shabby third floor loft just off Bowery Street on New York's Lower East Side. The surrounding streets are filled with the victims of the city's inhumanity; old men and drunks who will offer to "watch your car" for a quarter. The office reflects the neighborhood it's in. It has a few old wooden tables, some battered typewriters, yellowed copies of various papers strewn about the room, and a few layout tables. But this appearance belies the content of the paper. The City Star is one of the most professional local radical papers around. Its clean, crisp appearance, its simple yet thoughtful style, its roots in local community and neighborhood struggle, and its ability to maintain a sense of humor combine to create an excellent and significant newspaper.

The City Star traces its roots back many years. A number of its original staff were veterans

of the *Liberated Guardian*, a loud, militant New Left paper which split from the *Guardian* in 1970 and published off and on until 1973. The last *Liberated Guardian* appeared in February 1973; the first *City Star* came out May 1. The staff collective printed a statement which outlined some of their politics and



Tink Leefmans at the City Star

why the paper was started. From the beginning the paper was rooted in the lives of working and poor people, people who were looking for alternatives to the options offered by society, people who were "taking matters into their own hands." The staff saw these people as "getting for ourselves and for each other the things we need . . . from wherever they're available . . . working to gain control over schools, daycare centers, hospitals, pris-



# EXTRA

## ar: A left eftists

ons, and other institutions that affect our lives."

The City Star today has a staff collective of nine people, about half women and a third gay or bi-sexual, and other friends who help out. One staff person works part-time for pay, while the others work in their spare time.

The newspaper represents an interesting and emerging trend among radical veterans of the sixties. With roots in national organizing and a national newspaper, today the City Star is firmly attached to working within a single city. Although the paper maintains an interest in national affairs, its news and features are concerned primarily with New York.

One City Star staffer, Tink Leefmans, who worked on both the Guardian and the Liberated Guardian, sees the change in emphasis as partly pragmatic. "We felt we didn't really know what was going on in New York City," she says. The staff apparently felt that a good national newspaper was simply beyond their capabilities.

Even so, the staff has not forgotten the lessons that were learned with the Liberated Guardian. "The City Star grew out of the struggles of the '60s and built on those experiences," another staff person, Richard Ruth states. "The '60s were right. We want to affirm that that's where we came of age."

The politics of the City Star are broad—anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-imperialist—yet it is not dogmatic. "The City Star is not primarily directed at people who see themselves as leftists," explains Ruth. "But it's directed towards the hundreds of thousands of people in the city who are living their lives in an alternative manner." This includes "people who have taken some kind of action to change their lives," Leefmans added. Ruth points out that people are look-



Mark Morris in the Win office.



Susan Pines and Murray Rosenblith.

## Win magazine: a maverick moves to the city

By GRASS ROOTS STAFF

One of the more successful publications to rise out of the movements of the '60s has been Win magazine. What began as essentially a pacifist and antiwar magazine has, in the last ten years, developed into a well-written and attractive publication covering a broad spectrum of political and cultural stories, as well as occasional fiction, poetry and art. While many counter-culture influenced magazines and newspapers are now defunct, or else slick, hip cultural publications, Win has remained refreshingly true to its founding impulses.

Win began publishing in 1966, and in five years was coming out on a weekly basis. The magazine has featured writings by virtually every radical writer in this country, and many from overseas. It has at many times been influential in the radical movement, particularly during the anti-war era.

In 1970, influenced by the "back to the land" movement, Win and its staff left their office in New York City and moved to a farm in Rifton, New York. Win set up shop in a large barn, which the staff built into an office, layout space, and two floors of living space. But now, after five years of farm life, as they celebrate their tenth anniversary of publication, Win is preparing to move back to New York City.

"We've become really isolated from people who've supported Win and done work with us," says Murray Rosenblith, who's worked

at the Win farm for eighteen months. The rest of the five person staff agrees. They have been heavily involved in putting out the magazine, and haven't had time to sink roots in the surrounding community. Last year there wasn't time to work the farm, because it took away from work on the magazine. "I think we all prefer country life," Rosenblith explains, "but the schedule Win keeps doesn't allow us to."

For the folks at Win, the way they live and work is as important as the magazine they produce. "You don't separate how you're living your life and your politics," states Rosenblith. "You can't differentiate the two." Dwight Ernest adds that living and working collectively is "connecting ends with means."

Win is produced by a five-person collective, four of whom live communally in the upper sections of the big wooden barn. The magazine itself has reflected this desire to link lifestyle with politics. Win published an entire issue on men, which explored male sexuality and feminism, and articles frequently deal with food, work, communal living, and other areas which explore new and creative lifestyles in a political context.

Win is obviously directed at people who were influenced by the New Left and the counter-culture of the '60s and early '70s, and they readily admit this. But the central focus of the magazine's politics remains its commitment to non-violence.

"We try to advance pacifist politics," says Mark Morris, "although I think the original pre-

mise of Win was not to be doctrinaire about our pacifism." Morris, a long-time antiwar activist who has worked for Win on and off since it was started, stressed the openness of Win's politics. "Win has never towed a party line. It always has bitten the hand that fed it, and been a maverick. We realize this is going to make us infuriating to all true believers, but Win's never been focused in that way and I don't think it ever will be."

In many ways Win's impending move to the city reflects a rising trend among many of the people the magazine directly relates to, who, after experiencing the movements of the '60s, are now moving into the inner cities to help build, as one Win person called it, "the inner city renaissance." Susan Pines expressed a desire among the staff to get involved in community organizations in the city—block clubs, tenant unions, women's groups—in an effort to build ties in the neighborhood and become actively involved in the struggles which Win chronicles. For this reason, the decision by the people at Win to move back to the city is important, for Win has always been an important voice among people organizing for social, economic and political change in this country.

"I think a lot of things Win has done have turned out to be prophetic," says Morris. Although there are substantial differences between a farmhouse in Rifton and a brownstone in Brooklyn, the people at Win seem ready to face this new struggle.



Bitter widows tell Grass Roots:

## Owners ignored safety rules in killer mine

By PETER POCOCK

OVEN FORK, Ky.—The Scotia Coal Company mine, where 26 miners were killed in two explosions last month, was known to be a potential killer—but company officials and federal inspectors ignored the conditions that led to the blasts.

"When it goes, it's really gonna go," a ventilation man in the mine told his wife only a few weeks before the blasts. One of the fifteen men killed in the first explosion, he had been trying to get away from Scotia because of the dangerous conditions.

"He said he could work around the clock on ventilation, but it still wouldn't be like it ought to be," the miner's widow told Grass Roots. She and other widows asked that their names not be used because of possible retaliation by the Scotia Coal Company.

The explosions took place when methane, a highly explosive gas that seeps out of underground coal seams, built up to the point that a spark from mining equipment set it off like a bomb. The Scotia mine liberated a great deal of methane every day, but the ventilation system used to keep it from building up in the mine was too old and too small.

Scotia's ventilation had often been cited as dangerous by federal mine inspectors, the last time less than 24 hours before the first blast ripped through the mine. Rather than improve the ventilation system, the company resorted to temporary changes to improve airflow at the places where inspectors were taking readings.

Gary Smith, a Scotia miner, told investigators that he had adjusted ventilation curtains near the site of the first explosion to satisfy a federal safety inspector. The curtains were removed at the end of the shift, after the inspector concluded that the ventilation system was working properly.

Smith said that such diversion

of air was "common knowledge" among Scotia supervisors. If federal inspectors were aware of it, they did nothing to stop the practice—and Scotia kept operating with unsafe ventilation.

Despite the "gassy" nature of the mine and the deficiencies of the ventilating system, Scotia miners had little or no training in safety measures or self-rescue.

What safety courses were offered to miners required that they attend in their spare time, something few miners want to do after eight grueling hours underground. And even those courses are little more than simplistic explanations, according to miners who attended them.

"I don't go because it's the same thing over and over," said one miner who has worked at Scotia for five years and in the mines since 1948. "If we got something that was going to teach us anything on a more in-depth level, I'd be the first man there."

The only required training is



Friends await word of trapped miners. (Earl Dotter/UMWA Journal)

one hour of familiarization with the self-rescuer, a device for filtering carbon monoxide after a mine explosion. Little is done to prepare miners for the terrible reality of a mine after an explosion, or to teach the measures needed to prevent such a disaster.

The miners knew the dangers of the Scotia mine, but there was little they could do in the face of company indifference and weak enforcement of federal safety regulations. When a miners' safety representative complained to company officials he was told to back off or risk losing his job.

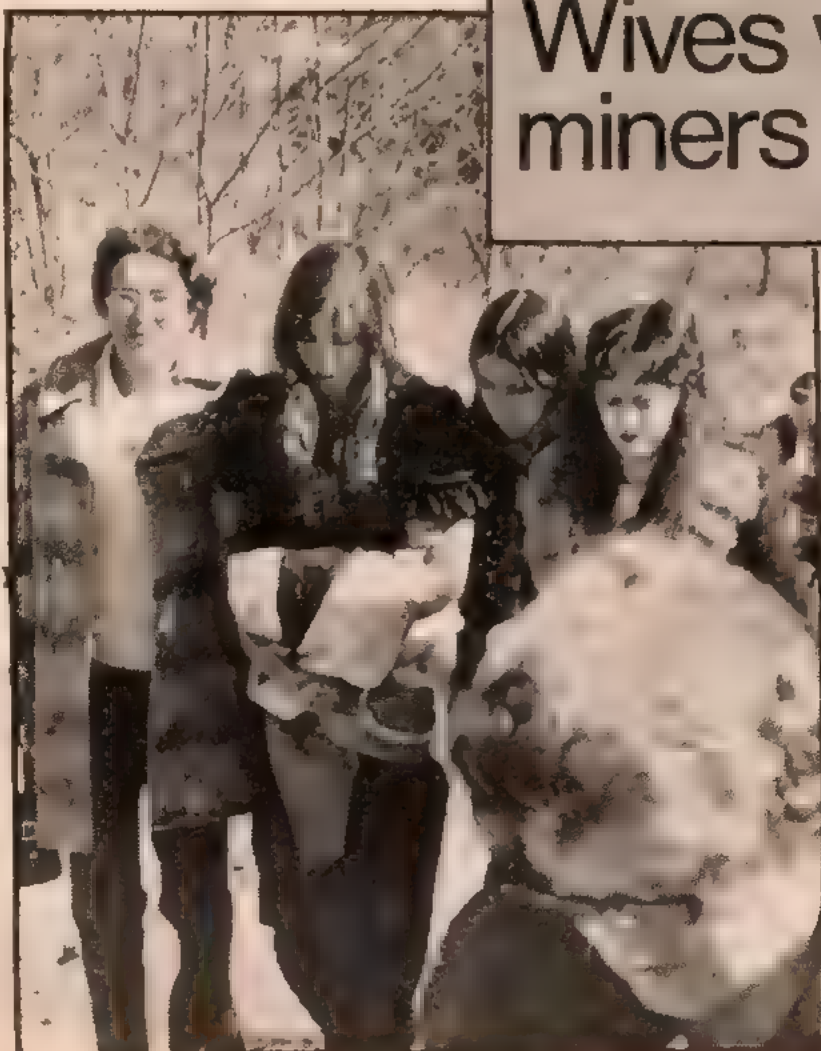
The threat of job loss and probable blacklisting is very real

to a miner in the eastern Kentucky coalfields, where unemployment is now between 10 and 15 per cent and the only major industry is coal mining. Even miners who want to get out of the mines know they will have a hard time finding other work.

The men who survived the Scotia explosions are working in other mines now, but many will return to the fatal mine when it is re-opened. They have little choice.

"Before this ever happened, the men would tell you about the different hazards," said the widow of one of the victims. "But they have to have some place to work and earn a living."

## Wives weren't told miners were trapped



(Helen Winternitz/Mountain Eagle)

When the first explosion ripped through the Scotia Coal Company's mine in Oven Fork, the mine operators never bothered to contact the wives and families of the men trapped in the mine.

"We only found out about the explosion when we heard the ambulances going up to the mine," said the young widow of one of the miners. "The company never told us a thing—even after we got to the mine, they wouldn't tell us who was in there for hours afterwards."

Relatives and friends of the trapped miners kept up their vigil in the drizzling rain for more than 12 hours before the company released the names of the men who had died.

Many relatives of the dead miners expressed bitterness over the failure of the mine operators to notify them, and that no representatives of the company were present at any of the miners' funerals.

"It makes you wonder," one widow mused, "whether the company cared about those men at all."





Demonstrators march to protest closing of WGTB-FM

By TIM FRASCA  
and JERRY KUPFER

WGTB, a listener-supported, alternative format radio station in Washington, D.C., was abruptly silenced March 16 following a three-month battle between the staff and owner over issues of programming and labor-management relations. Without warning, representatives of the licensee, Jesuit-run Georgetown University, entered the broadcast studios with campus police at 9 a.m., read a statement, fired the entire WGTB staff, cut the station off the air, and boarded up the studios and office.

WGTB had found its voice as a direct people-to-people organ of communication, bringing services and analyses liberated from commercial and institutional restraints.

Only four days after the owner's coup, massive organizing efforts brought nearly 1,000 outraged listeners to blast Georgetown's action and demand immediate reinstatement of the staff and format of the silenced station. The Committee to Save Alternative Radio (CSAR), which had been organized as a support group several months earlier, organized the demonstration.

The station had had uneasy relations with Georgetown since the shift to a progressive format occurred in 1969. WGTB gained an audience beyond the university, and attracted a large number of volunteers from the community as part of a new philosophy of expanded access to the airwaves to the general public. Soon, broad hints of upper-level displeasure at the new labor, women's and gay programs, the Alternative News, and the diverse musical programming began to filter down to the staff from the university hierarchy.

The conflict escalated in November, 1975, when Secretary of the University Virginia Keeler shocked staff members by denying permission not only to hold an on the air fund-raiser for the Washington Free Clinic, but also any and all future public service announcements for the Clinic. Without ever mentioning abortion specifically (the clinic does referrals), Keeler left little doubt as to the university's objection when she wrote, "Due to the fact that Georgetown is a Jesuit and a Catholic institution," running any spot announcements for the clinic would be an "egregious error."

WGTB General Manager Kenneth Sleeman was told that any exposure of the ban to other media would be "suicide." The staff saw the incident as an attempt to open a wedge of censorship and set the stage for future intimidation. They immediately discussed the issue over the air. Both Washington daily newspapers and most of the TV and radio stations quickly arrived at the doorstep, and the university publicly denied any intention of censorship, although privately its officials refused to lift the restriction.

Caught with its pants down and facing resistance from the staff, Georgetown retaliated. General Manager Sleeman was fired in December for "failure to exercise proper control and failure to promulgate university policies." Ignoring internal procedures, university administrators dissolved the station's constitution. "The community no longer has a radio station," remarked one university official.

"This naked exercise of self-interest reveals the futility of attempting somehow to push the organs of communications closer to their own professed goals of 'objectivity' and 'balance,'" read a statement by the WGTB News

# Georgetown U.: "The community no longer has a radio station."

Collective. "Information never stands by itself but carries political impact, and those who control the sources of information, although they hide behind slick professionalism and the best manipulative techniques money can buy, will inevitably use the political impact of information to shape events towards their own interests."

The Committee to Save Alternative Radio is calling on Georgetown to restore WGTB to "the way it was when listeners voted with their pocketbooks with \$32,000 for WGTB last fall." The Committee is demanding that a binding agreement between itself and Georgetown be signed maintaining the former organizational structure and program format. Failing that, CSAR will petition the FCC to deny Georgetown's license renewal.

Legal sources indicate a num-

ber of promising strategies to be taken and encouraging legal precedents found by the assembled team of public interest and communications lawyers. But CSAR sees constant political pressure as absolutely necessary for success in the laborious legal process. Local organizing and a massive petition campaign continue throughout the Washington metropolitan area and beyond. A benefit concert and further rallies are planned, along with a high-visibility media campaign to build a broad membership and continue to agitate for real public interest radio.

Committee to Save  
Alternative Radio  
P.O. Box 32112  
Washington, D.C. 20007

TIM FRASCA and JERRY KUPFER are members of the WGTB staff-in-exile.

## Sophie's

The Sophie's Parlor collective programmed women's music and public affairs shows and received wide support from the feminist community in Washington. The following is excerpted from a statement by Sophie's Parlor following the station's seizure:

The bottom line of any overground institution is the patriarchy. It is the patriarchy to whom we are ultimately accountable no matter what type of mutation of the established order we see around us. The communications network is no exception to this rule. If anything, it is a shining example of how the patriarchy works.

The issues surrounding the shutdown of the station are numerous. There is the relatively minor degradation of the alternative format — programming the university's male basketball games during women's programming time. Sophie's only evening show was cut by two-thirds repeatedly over a three-month period to satisfy the university's parochial needs.

But more far-reaching than this butchering are two controversies which cry out for analysis: the censorship of the Washington Area Free Clinic's announcements and the issue of sensitive language. The Free Clinic was dispensing information to help women control their own bodies. This information



included abortion referral as a facet of a wide range of community health services. Georgetown is but an arm of the Roman Catholic Church. For years the Church has told women to stay home and procreate the faith. It is more than a coincidence that three weeks after the National Conference of Catholic Bishops made Right-to-Life groups their number one political priority and expanded their budget accordingly, this Jesuit institution issued its directive denying airtime to the Free Clinic.

The obscenity issue is a red herring that the university is hiding behind. What Georgetown actually defines as obscene are words like lesbian and abortion — words that are any other color than white, any other gender than male, any other class than middle or upper — words like "We won't take any more shit."



# .. City Star

(Continued from p. 11)

ing for different ways of seeing the world. "We want to show an alternative — that we like Vietnam; we don't like suits and ties."

"What's important to us is if people are out there doing work," adds Jay Barker, the Star's office manager. The paper covers what's happening in the neighborhoods of New York — tenant strikes, day care centers, food co-ops, union rank and file caucuses, and women's centers — all these struggles and more appear in the City Star's pages. "We'll write about any mass struggle that anybody is doing," says Ruth.

The paper is making an effort to reach a number of selected industries, social struggles and neighborhoods in the city, and plans to double circulation through an intensive street-selling campaign. The City Star sees itself as reaching out to the many people in New York who are getting involved in community organizing out of necessity, as well as helping communication among the left itself. In this regard the City Star is in a good position. An independent paper with no ties to the organized left, it is still friendly with many left groups. A number of community groups have taken an active role on the paper. Parents Against Racism in Education edits a monthly education page, and other groups edit a prison page, day care articles, and a sports section.

Another important aspect of the City Star is its "self-help" articles. These include a monthly list of important phone numbers in the city (which many people post on their walls), a legal advice column, recipes, and other useful items for New Yorkers.

The City Star is part of an important development in American cities — the desire of young working people to build decent communities in which to live. And the paper is serious in its approach to this struggle. "We want the City Star to be an excellent newspaper," Ruth says, "as good as the ones we compete with." Judging by recent issues of the paper, the City Star is well on its way toward reaching this goal.



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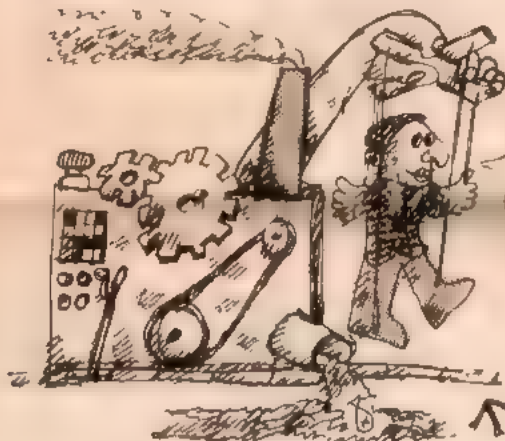
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HA, HA, HA, WHAT'S THE  
CONFLICT OF INTEREST?  
ETC.

A... (A... YOU REALLY HARDLY EVER  
GET TO MEET THEM BUT THROUGH THE  
MIXED BLESSING OF MODERN MEDIA  
YOU FIND OUT THINGS ABOUT THEM. THE  
ISSUES? DON'T WORRY ABOUT THEM... THESE  
... ARE THE... BUT AFTER ALL, THAT'S  
... B. Z.



AND I'M THE  
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PRES.

HOW ABOUT THE "FULL DISCLOSURE" CANDIDATE



MOM  
AND APPLE  
PIE!!

I believe in  
this country  
(what it stands  
for...)

THE "SNAKE IN  
THE GRASS" CANDIDATE

H'YA  
FELLA!

Bring Prayer back  
to school, burn  
textbooks, I owe  
it all to Gaud.

THE "RELIGIOUS" CANDIDATE



AMEN

THE "ALL AMERICAN" CANDIDATE

THIS CARTOON WAS DRAWN BY A HARRY NILSSON FAN NAMED STEVEN BIALER.  
WATCH FOR MY PICTURES IN THIS AND OTHER PROGRESSIVE PUBLICATIONS



# Agee talks about the CIA: how it funds reporters, unions, and German spies

Philip Agee is a former CIA agent who has been living in exile since he wrote a book denouncing the CIA for its secret intervention in other countries, and detailing his past work for the CIA abroad. This interview was conducted by Information-Dienst of Hamburg, West Germany. Information-Dienst recently published a list of CIA agents working in that country. The interview was published in the United States by Liberation News Service.

**"The basic politics of the U.S. is the exploitation of whole nations, and for this the CIA is absolutely indispensable. . ."**

## Interview



**INFORMATION-DIENST:** Where is the CIA active now?

**PHILIP AGEE:** Because of the very important presence of the United States in Germany, the CIA has to use several covers under which it operates. A large number of agents are sent to Bonn as diplomatic personnel. But a lot of them, probably most of them, operated under military cover. The biggest CIA station in West Germany is very likely located in one of the military bases in and around Frankfurt. There are also CIA units in Berlin and Munich.

**ID:** What is the function of these units?

**PA:** The units operating from the military base are often mobile groups, that practice "reconnaissance"

sance" all over the country. They are highly specialized technicians who tap phones, monitor mail, check up on people, code or decode reports. For this reason, they work in close connection with local governments.

Other units have the special task of forming contact with organizations and people. All the information gathered is used to infiltrate them into those specific organizations and to manipulate them. Especially in Bonn, the CIA will try to reach into the Chinese, Cuban, and eastern European embassies, to watch their mail and to manipulate when possible.

**ID:** The U.S. and the CIA have been active for a long time in Germany. How would you evaluate the political infiltrations of the CIA activities in Germany?

**PA:** Since the Second World War, the aim of U.S. policies has been to consolidate the "security" of the Western world under the leadership of America. CIA activities serve this design. For this reason they needed to create governments which would be for the most part friendly to the U.S., which would be anti-communist; therefore movements of opposition had to be discredited and crushed. Efforts at all levels were made to reach this aim.

Anti-communist labor unions were, for example, staffed and massively subsidized by the CIA. National and international organizations in which there were communists or Soviet representatives were isolated, or efforts were made to split the opposition. If this tactic did not work, a new organization, this time strictly anti-communist, was founded.

Of course, the CIA always proceeds in such a way that only a very small number of people hear about its interventions, for disclosure would destroy the image of authentic political development, for which the CIA depends on its front organizations.

**ID:** It is now known that the British news agency Reuters was used by the CIA to place certain false news items in important newspapers. How does that work?

**PA:** It works like this. A concocted piece of news is cabled by a CIA unit to the local CIA agent responsible for propaganda. This agent fabricates a complete

news report and hands it on to the journalist under CIA contract. This journalist puts it into his newspaper. Once a piece of news has appeared in some papers, it is picked up by other propaganda agents and distributed world-wide with the newspaper as a credible source.

Especially in Chile at the time of Allende, this method was used to create thousands of false and slanderous stories which were spread between Chile and other countries.

Since I have published my experiences with the CIA, I myself am an object of such false reports. Almost every six weeks some kind of strange story pops up intended to destroy my credibility. The other week a report spread by a correspondent of the Los Angeles Times stated that I had given the KGB (the Soviet intelligence agency) the name of some Polish officer spying for the West. The story is totally invented, but its function is clear.

**ID:** Have the recent CIA disclosures changed anything?

**PA:** Actual changes of policies and operations depend on actual changes in the U.S. In spite of constant sensational disclosures, Ford and Kissinger have stressed again and again that the CIA has to maintain its ability to function; that means that the CIA must be able to repeat at any time what it did in Chile. The basic politics of the U.S. is the exploitation of whole nations, and for this the CIA is absolutely indispensable. . . .

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## Presidential Candidate Margaret Wright:

"Nobody talking made me radical. The Pig made me one when he...kicked my ass."



MARGARET WRIGHT

### FROM A TRANSCRIPT OF A TALK DELIVERED IN DETROIT.

I had been involved a long time in Los Angeles. I've been an organizer. I organized the Black Alternative, the United Parents Council, Women Against Repression. That's why it's hard for me to really hear people put down reformers. Because when I started that's what the hell I was. I was just trying to get a couple of turns out of the system. But I was doing a hell of a lot of organizing to do it.

And through the struggle, it radicalized me. Nobody talking made me a radical. The Pig made me one. When he beat me up, threw me in jail, kicked my ass, and put me through all these changes. That made me a radical. Not nobody expounding some type of book to me. And all the women that was working with me, it made them a radical too. Because they hadn't even read a damn book. But a policeman's boot is very heavy. So when people say, "Well, we can't be worried with reformers," remember, nobody was born into this world wearing a red diaper. Everybody was something else before they became a radical. And we have to realize this. And if we are going to really build our party, this is what we have to realize. That through struggle,

involving them in struggle, we're going to get somewhere. Because I know it worked with me, everybody had their own thing that works with them.

I know you can sit up in college getting radicalized reading books, but most of us poor jerks out there don't read no damn books. And we don't go to college. So if you're going to get down to the working people, because when I was bent over scrubbing those damn floors, where there was nobody spouting no Marxist-Lenin to me, all I saw was soap suds and water. But I know it wasn't right, when the woman in there wanted me to eat all her left-overs in her refrigerator and didn't want to

stealing or something, when I have to call my supervisors, stand in the middle of the floor and scream, when they aren't going to give me no lousy little food stamps. That aren't going to last a week anyway. I know that isn't right. So nobody has to read me a book to tell me what I have to do about those kind of things. Because none of this is going to work under the capitalist system. We're going to have to get rid of it. And nobody had to tell me to read one damn book to tell me we had to get rid of it.

Also, when they asked me to run for President, I'm a lousy traveller and I know I'm a lousy traveller. I get carsick going one block. But I thought it was

have been able to do by running for President.

Many of the times that I run for City Council or something has been the same thing. Not to win, but to get people to vote. When I ran for City Council, I got three projects. One was a white project in San Pedro, Eastside was a Chicano project, and Watts was a black project. And they gave me a block vote. And I was more proud of that than anything. And they're still working together. So this is the kind of thing. It's work, inconvenience, agony. It's worth running to see that when you do run, you leave something of value behind. That's what's important. You know, you can run your ass off, but if you don't leave nothing of



"I do think we're on the right track, you know, doing this."

pay me decent wages. I knew that wasn't right. And I had to do something about that.

I also know that it isn't right every time I go to collect my food stamps. They act like I'm

worth it, any inconvenience, because I thought '76 is going to be the year when we can really make some inroads, because a lot of people are unhappy with the Democrats and Republicans. But they really don't have any alternative. And I thought this is really the year. And I have to admit that I was a little selfish too. Because in the Peace and Freedom Party I wanted to draw some black people in there from my community. So I have to admit to that selfishness, which I

value behind, I don't think it's worth it. So this is what to me is really what's important—to get people organized.

So then you throw a little asides in like running for President. I don't know if the main office is at work or not, but we have asked for some Secret Service people, and I had asked for females, because I wanted them to be able to go into the toilet with me. Because as I said before I didn't want to get shot in the toilet. It's not a dignified place to die.

And when I talked to Laura Allende, when she was in Los Angeles, she said she's very happy about a woman running for president. She said, "Margaret, when is the electorate going to get together?" And I said, "I don't know. Why don't you tell me how your brother got them together in Chile?" And she said, "Well, he didn't really do anything. They just decided that this was a time that they could come together. That he was a candidate that they could get behind." I said, "Hell, I wish it could be that easy here." But I do think we're on the right track, you know, doing this.

## People's Party ticket on New Jersey ballot

NEWARK—Over a four-day period in April, campaign workers gathered nearly twice the number of signatures required to place the People's Party ticket of Margaret Wright and Benjamin Spock on the New Jersey ballot in the November General Election.

New Jersey law requires 800 signatures on candidates' ballot petitions. With a strong helping hand from the New York Working People's Party, the New Jersey campaigners were able to get more than 1,500 signatures, mostly on the streets of Newark. The New York group, currently awaiting approval of its affiliation with the People's Party, sent 10 volunteers to aid in the

drive.

In 1972, the People's Party ticket of Spock and Hobson received 5,355 votes, second highest total after California.

The next targets in the ballot drive campaign are Idaho, Washington State and Kentucky, all of which had People's Party on their ballots in '72.

The biggest setback of the campaign so far occurred in Ohio in March when the national campaign staff decided that there were not enough volunteers to get the necessary 5,000 signatures needed in that state by March 25.

The goal is to put the Wright/Spock ticket on the ballot in at least 20 states—twice as many as the Spock/Hobson ticket were on in '72.



# Sweet victory in Ypsilanti!



HAROLD BAIZE

YIPSILANTI, Mich. — The third and fourth wards of this southeast Michigan town became the electoral stronghold of the radical Michigan Human Rights Party (HRP) last month with the reelection of city council members Harold Baize and Eric Jackson.

As the party's electoral presence in neighboring Ann Arbor went down the tubes in the April balloting, the Ypsi party demonstrated that it was at least as strong as it had been in '74, the first time Baize and Jackson were elected.

## Baize and Jackson re-elected

"We stomped them," a gleeful Jackson said on election night. "Our involvement in the community at many different levels is something that is permanent and that they're going to have to deal with for many years to come."

The victory was particularly sweet for Jackson coming only three weeks after the city council voted 7 to 2 to censure him for accusing Mayor George Goodman, a Democrat, of pressuring private consultants to come up with a recommendation that the city charter be revised to have council members elected at large



ERIC JACKSON

rather than by wards. Such a change would weaken HRP's ability to elect city council members since the party's strength is currently concentrated in the third and fourth wards.

If anything, the censure helped rally sympathy for the HRP's candidates. Running in a field of four, Baize got 153 votes compared to write-in candidate Frank Coles' second place showing of 85. The Democrat got 58 votes, the Republican only 16. In '74, Baize won by 187 to 135 in a two-way race against a Democrat. Jackson got 166 votes,

beating a Democrat and Republican who received 166 and 54 votes respectively.

## No wins in Ann Arbor

ANN ARBOR — With the April municipal elections, the Socialist Human Rights Party (SHRP) here found itself without an elected representative on the city council for the first time since 1972.

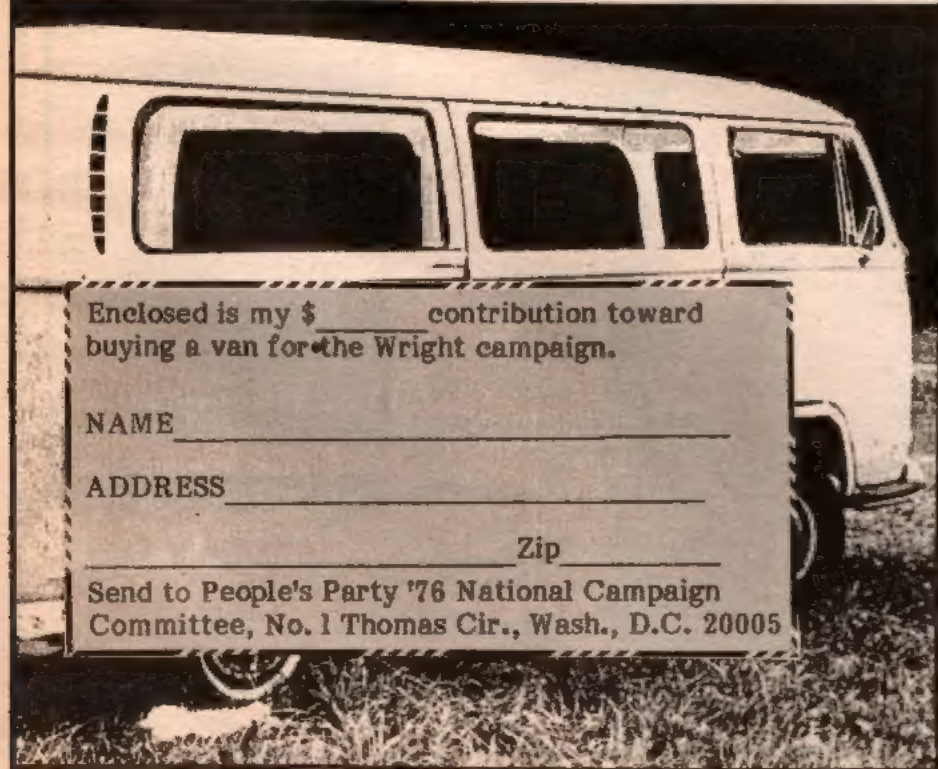
The SHRP, its electoral organizing at an all-time low, ran candidates in only three of five wards, though it had little expectation of winning in any of them.

The Ann Arbor branch of the Human Rights, which recently renamed itself the Socialist Human Rights Party (SHRP), has dwindled dramatically since 1972 when it astounded straight politicians by electing Jerry DeGriek and Nancy Wechsler to city council. It managed to hold on to one seat in '74 when Kathy Kozachenko was elected to a two-year term. When the party failed to elect anyone in '75, its viability as an electoral organization received a blow from which never recovered. Kozachenko said last month that the tendency among remaining members is to do workplace organizing to build a base for the future. "What we need are roots and leadership from the working community," the outgoing city council member said.

## HELP THE WRIGHT CAMPAIGN TO REALLY GET ON THE ROAD.

**We've got \$1,500 toward a van. We need \$1,500 more.**

The '76 People's Party Campaign needs a reliable, second-hand van to travel to the various states where ballot drives will be taking place between now and October. Half the necessary money has been raised. Will you help with the other half?



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## Court now says no to Army post forums

The Supreme Court has ruled that the People's Party 1972 Presidential and Vice-presidential candidates—Dr. Benjamin Spock and Julius Hobson—were rightfully barred from Ft. Dix, New Jersey, during the '72 campaign.

The 6-2 ruling cited the American tradition of "a politically neutral military" and said that military installations were to train soldiers, not serve as a "public forum."

Justice Thurgood Marshall, who wrote the dissent in the case, accused the court of establishing a doctrine "under which any military regulation can evade searching Constitutional scrutiny simply because of the military's belief—however unsupportable it may be—that the regulation is appropriate."

Marshall was joined in his dissent by Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. In the case with Spock and Hobson was the Socialist Workers Party.

Marshall also said the Court has gone too far in the direction of deciding that "fundamental Constitutional rights can be denied both civilians and servicemen whenever the military



BEN SPOCK

thinks its functioning would be enhanced by so doing."

Brennan, noting that political pamphleteering continued to be allowed at a Texas base—and will continue to be allowed under the Court's ruling in the Spock case—said the only difference between the two was the difference between "an innocuous leafleteer" and "one of this country's most vociferous opponents of the exercise of military power."



## San Francisco planning a "unifying" 1976 Convention

The San Francisco Peace and Freedom Party, host of the Fifth National Convention of the People's Party, announced last month that with the help of the Alameda County Peace and Freedom Party and Movement, it was planning a convention that it hoped would reunite the party by bringing people together on more personal levels. "We're talking about good food and cultural events throughout the seven days of the convention, National Committee member Barbara Blong said in April. "We want to link up what's happening at the convention with what's happening in people's minds."

The working date for the convention is the first week in August, though federal election

laws may require that it be a week earlier. The convention will decide whether to reaffirm the nominations of Margaret Wright and Benjamin Spock for president and vice president.

The People's Party is currently undergoing a reaffiliation process that requires affiliates to pay \$10 dues per month toward support of national communications and outreach. By late April, 13 locals had filed for reaffiliation, with four pending ratification by the party's Grass Roots Committee. The party, which once described itself as a "coalition of local radical parties working in electoral and non-

electoral organizing," is now for the first time imposing a national financial commitment on itself.

After the 1975 defeat of their rent control referendum, members of the East Lansing Human Rights Party decided they had come close enough to winning that, learning from their '75 mistakes, they could make '76 their year. They began petitioning April 1 and had 1,400 signatures by the end of the month. They need 1,800 by August 1. The core group of activists numbers 25 as opposed to six last year. The budget has also jumped, from \$400 to \$2,000. The

referendum received 42 percent of the vote in '75 in the face of a well-financed "vote no" campaign waged by landlords.

Presidential candidate Margaret Wright will make a third eastern campaign trip in June. After speaking at the University of Massachusetts, she will travel to other East Coast cities for campaign appearances.

Sam Lovejoy and Anna Gyorgy, anti-nuclear power organizers from Montague, Mass., finished up a tour of California last month, aiding the Peace and Freedom Party's campaign to get a yes vote on the Nuclear Power Referendum appearing on the California primary ballot in June. The referendum calls for an elaborate checking system to determine if nuclear power is a high risk proposition.

### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The People's Party is a national coalition of state and local organizations and individuals working together to build socialism. We struggle against the capitalist economic system, which puts power and wealth in the hands of a few. We work for a classless society. We work to abolish the employer-employee wage labor relationship. We work for production for people's needs rather than for private profit. At the same time, we struggle in our lives against oppressive power relationships: male domination, white skin privilege, privilege of adults over the young and elderly, and the privilege of heterosexuals over gay males and lesbians. To build this socialist system we recognize the long-term need for a united organization of all working class people. We seek cooperation, both for this organized class-wide unity and for ongoing struggles, with compatible groups and organizations. Elections can be used as a powerful educational and organizing tool, but are not an end in themselves. As a guide to the realization of these goals, the People's Party offers the following General Principles:

1. The building of working class people's power toward collective control of communities and workplaces (homes, shops, factories, offices, and schools).
2. Abolition of all rents, consumer debt, residential mortgages, and debts of governments to banks.
3. Redistribution of wealth and land.
4. An end to all discrimination and oppression based on race, sex, sexual preference, and age.
5. Full productive employment, not war-related, at prevailing union wages, for all.
6. The turning over of all properties of the U.S. multinational corporations in other countries to the workers and peasants of those countries; withdrawal from the more than 3,000 overseas U.S. military bases.
7. Abolition of the military establishment, the CIA, and all other known and secret agencies which exist to destroy peoples' struggles at home and abroad.
8. Honoring of all treaties with native tribes and peoples.
9. Self-determination for all peoples in the manner determined by them, including independence for Puerto Rico, Micronesia, and Guam, and statehood for the Colony of Columbia (Washington, D.C.). Relinquishment of control of the Panama Canal Zone.
10. Respect for the right of self-defense for working people, including the right of people to defend themselves from rape and assault, and the constitutional right to keep and bear arms, so long as governments are armed.
11. Free, excellent quality health care, full educational opportunities, and quality housing for all.
12. Full production of healthful food—for people, not for profit.
13. Outlawing of the poisoning and pollution of the air, soil, water, and food. A stop to nuclear fission reactors; expansion of research on alternate energy sources—solar power now.
14. Unconditional amnesty for war objectors; freedom for all political prisoners; abolition of the present prison system.
15. Abolition of criminal penalties for drug use, prostitution, and other victimless crimes.

### CONTACTS

#### EAST

Brian Doherty  
3827 Cathedral Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Scott Schnipper  
79 Broad St.  
Summit, NJ 07901

N.Y. Working People's Party  
125 W. 17th St.  
New York, NY 10011

Paul Glover  
P.O. Box 385  
Ithaca, NY 14850

#### NEW ENGLAND

John Hammar  
652 S. East St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040

Natural Rights Party  
Anna Gyorgy  
Box 30  
Montague Ctr., MA 01351

Eric Davin  
P.O. Box 37  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Liberty Union  
Todd Manley  
P.O. Box 192  
Essex, VT 05451

Howard Hawkins  
11 Lebanon St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040

#### MIDWEST

Martha Boland  
556 High St.  
Wooster, OH 44691

Cliff Berns  
Box 85, Stoper  
Kent State Univ.  
Kent, OH 44243

Gary McIntire  
38 E. 11th St., Apt. 4  
Columbus, OH 43210

Sidney Lens  
3442 River Falls Rd.  
Northbrook, IL 60062

Indianapolis Peace & Freedom Party  
Louise Brandon  
4742 Munter Ln.  
Indianapolis, IN 46218

Ypsilanti Human Rights Party  
Dennis Galbraith  
504 N. River  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Greater Lansing Human Rights Party  
Mary Ellen Karczewski  
231 Bailey St.  
East Lansing, MI 48823

Oakland County Human Rights Party  
Reggie McNulty  
13770 Wales  
Oak Park, MI 48823

Kalamazoo Human Rights Party  
Ken Hunt  
427 W. Vine  
Kalamazoo, MI 48237

John Peterson  
1210 W. Stoughton  
Urbana, IL 61801

Hal Wert  
1501 Rhode Island  
Lawrence, KS 66044

#### SOUTH

Milo Gutherie  
Short Mountain  
Rt. 1, Box 98A  
Gassaway, TN 37095

#### WEST

East Bay Peace & Freedom Party  
William Callison  
440A 40th St.  
Oakland, CA 94609

San Luis Obispo County Peace & Freedom Party  
Bruce Miller  
1962 Hope St.  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Chuck Smith  
1645-A Young St.  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Doreen Bunting  
5021 Guadalupe Trail, NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87107

#### LOCAL AFFILIATED PARTIES

Pima County New Party  
Paul Damon  
2321 E. Hawthorne  
Tucson, AZ 85719

Alameda County Peace & Freedom Party (Movement)  
Hilda Cowen  
530A 42nd St.  
Oakland, CA 94609

Los Angeles Peace & Freedom Party  
Jan Tucker  
4309 Glenalbyn Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90065

San Francisco County Peace & Freedom Party  
245 Mississippi St.  
San Francisco, CA 94107

Santa Clara County Peace & Freedom Party  
Elizabeth Barron  
1574 Albatross Dr.  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Sonoma County Peace & Freedom Party  
Carolyn Patrick  
1677 Hearn Ave.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Akron Area People's Party  
Jim Thomas  
2739 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd.  
Barberton, OH 44203

Socialist Human Rights Party  
Larry Bassett  
P.O. Box 101  
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

St. Louis Area Peace & Freedom Party  
Marilou Braun  
8871C Torii Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63121

National  
**People's  
Party**



ingmar bergman...

## As a political prisoner

By BARRY PARKER

Ingmar Bergman has always seemed a rebel, a crusader, and an artist with such strength and dignity, that the idea of his being associated with a shabby crime like income tax evasion seems laughable. But the law, even to Ingmar Bergman, can be cruel.

On January 30 of this year, Bergman was seized by Swedish police in front of his friends and associates while rehearsing for a new film. He was detained for a lengthy period by the police, and was, according to friends, the victim of severe harassment. On February 3, Bergman was formally charged with tax fraud.

Shortly after his arrest, Bergman suffered what associates described as a nervous breakdown, and was hospitalized. And, on March 24, the charges against Bergman were quietly, if not mysteriously, dropped.

Specifically, Bergman was accused by Swedish authorities with failing to pay personal income taxes on \$118,000 from income earned in 1971. It was part of some \$600,000 that Bergman transferred to Sweden from a Swiss corporation that he and other artists had set up to produce and distribute their films throughout the world. When the Swiss corporation folded in 1974, Bergman transferred the funds to Sweden and paid a ten percent capital gains tax, placing the rest of the money in his own Swedish-based production and distribution company.

### Film

However, there appear to be much darker aspects to this alleged crime. Is it possible that Bergman has become a victim of his own desire to be a creative artist in a society where non-conformity and independent thinking are commonplace? Is Bergman, who could have made a fortune directing films in the United States, being punished for being too successful in a socialist society?

This is not too difficult to believe. Creative artists being destroyed by their society is certainly not new, and film directors of this century have not been the exception. Orson Welles and Charlie Chaplin were virtually destroyed as cinema artists at the height of creativity by various forms of official power. Welles was a victim of the Hollywood power structure, which drove a misunderstood artist into



oblivion, and Chaplin was a victim of government harassment, along with vicious innuendo about his personal life. Ironically, Chaplin, like Bergman, was accused of tax evasion. (Although Chaplin refused to pay certain taxes as a political protest.) Jean Renoir, the great French director, was intimidated by a French government near-

collapse for the very reasons that he had predicted in films like *Rules of the Game* and *Grand Illusion*.

Bergman, an established artist in Sweden for more than twenty years, is being defended in his country by a wide variety of political forces. The art community, as would be expected, is supporting him, as are different

aspects of society and the press.

However, the more leftist press, and with that the more leftist community, has come down hard on Bergman, seemingly portraying him as a wealthy recluse trying to avoid paying his taxes towards the various social programs in Sweden. They see Bergman's current situation as totally just, setting him as an example for anyone who might break the rules in the future.

Bergman's guilt or innocence seems almost secondary in this affair. The painful truth that he has been held up to ridicule and abuse by many of his own people, could lead Bergman, like so many others, to become an artist in exile.

The European film community has been severely shaken in past months by the deaths of such prominent directors as Victoria De Sica and Bernardo Bertolucci. It would be a tragedy if Bergman would be lost to the cinema, not by death, but by the ignorance of the people of his own country.

BARRY PARKER writes regularly on films for *Grass Roots*.

## 'New Dawn'... of what?

For the past year or more, it has become increasingly clear that today's new woman has not been getting all that she wants in any of the publications available to her. Look on any newsstand and you will find a vast array of magazines, some outstanding and some less so, but each dedicated to a single narrow aspect of a woman's life... Such is the word from the publisher of *New Dawn* magazine, Stephan L. Saunders. The solution to this problem, according to Saunders, is to add *New Dawn* to the vast array of magazines which are supposed to offer a woman everything she wants, as long as she keeps coming up with the money.

"As its President and Publisher, I have already made my most important contribution to the magazine by hand-selecting a staff of creative, capable young women who know far better than I ever could what today's more active, more aware, more interesting woman wants in a magazine," brags Saunders. Anyone who has worked in an office where the male boss hand-picks the women staff-members should be skeptical of this remark. Most of these egotists only select women who will think, do and say exactly what the bosses want them to, without being told—especially if the women want to keep their jobs.

Women can judge the sincerity of a woman's magazine in a



much easier way than tracking down the publisher. They simply need to read the staff listing usually printed somewhere in the first few pages, and then scan the titles of the articles and their authors. If any woman does this for *New Dawn* she will discover that there are 14 women and 10 men on the staff. The women hold all the positions dealing with production, such as art director, controller, and circulation manager. The men hold all the administrative and corporate positions.

By EVA KIPPER

Turning her attention to articles and authors, a woman finds these results: "Ms. Steinem, are you now or have you ever..." by Mary Perot Nichols; "Mister Right Revisited," by Emily Prager; "Twelve Tips on Looking Terrific," by Jeff Goldberg; "The Status Game," by Tracy Young and Lane Berkwit; "The Female Orgasm," by Georgia Kline Graber, R.N., and Benjamin Graber, M.D.; "Miracles of Mail Order Madness," by

David Seader, Albi Gorn, Peter Wernick, and Scott Cohen; and "The Man's Page," by Harry.

Most of the articles deal with sex, looks, or status. Few, if any, were written with any thought of the women's movement.

One of the most revealing examples of where the first issue of *New Dawn* is coming from is the comic strip "Panthea" by Trina. Panthea is half woman, half lion, the result of her mother mating with a lion. The lion kills Panthea's mother during a squabble over an antelope.

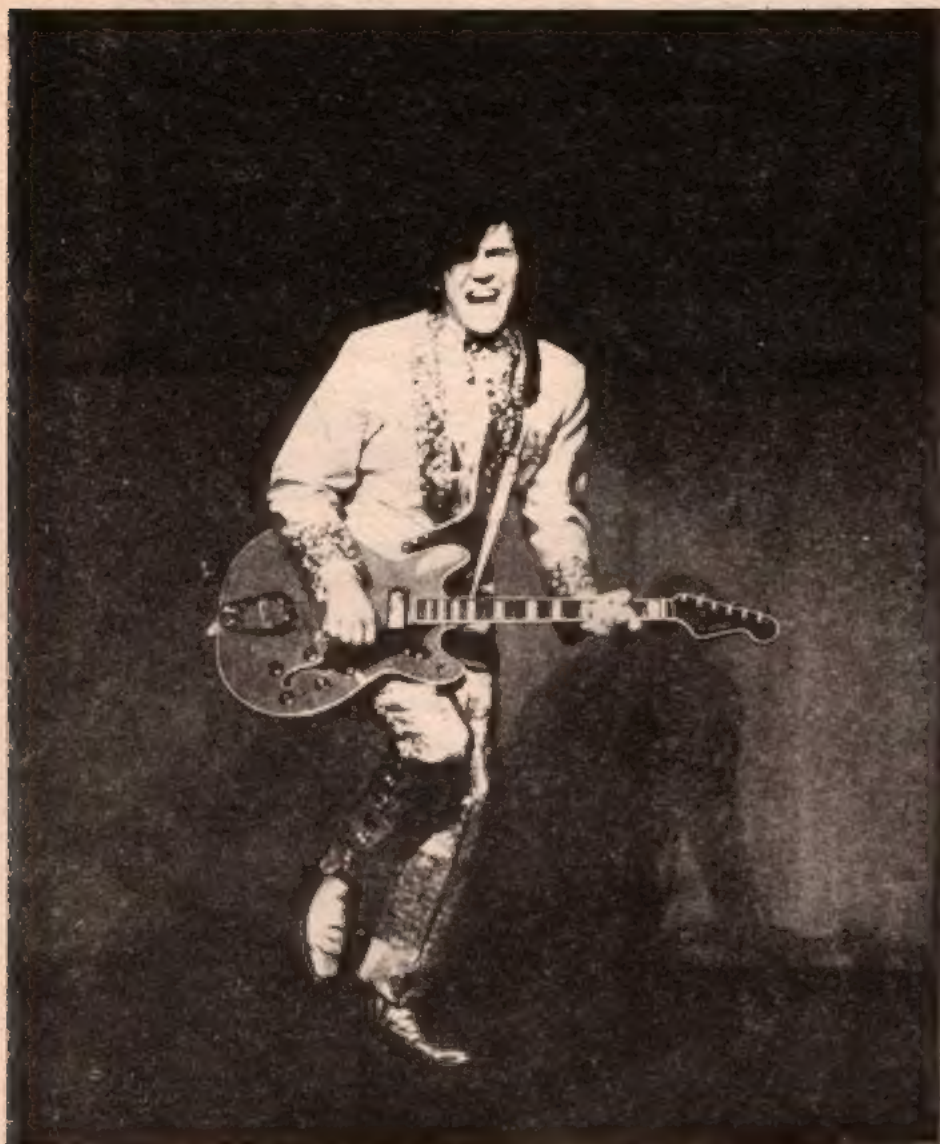
A woman adventurer, also a lesbian, wants to capture Panthea in order to offer her "undreamed of pleasure." The adventurer's sidekick is a well-built black male native. The man makes the mistake of making an advance at the adventurer, who responds: "Pig! How many times have I told you... I don't get off on men!"

She knocks the man to the floor with one slap of her hand. The man thinks: "White bitch! I'll get you for this!" He does so by freeing Panthea from her cage. She gratefully thanks him and calls him a trusted friend. Panthea: "I can trust you!" Black man: "I can sell you!"

This type of stereotyping is exactly what women don't want. "Panthea" perpetuates the myth that all successful women are gay and that all black men are weak and hate white women.

The word from Stephan L. Saunders should have been "I can sell you!" Don't let him sell you *New Dawn*.





Publicity photo for Ochs' 1970 Carnegie Hall concert

## Phil Ochs: "This then is the death of the American"

By FRED NOYES

The death of folk singer Phil Ochs came as a shock to not only the music world, but the radical movement as well. Ochs, who was described by the *New York Times* as a "troubadour of the New Left," committed suicide in his sister's home on April 9, at the age of 35. "Phil had been very depressed for a long time," a friend was quoted as saying. "Mainly, the words weren't coming to him anymore."

Phil Ochs was an important part of the protest-folk music scene of New York's Greenwich Village during the early '60s. His protest songs, including "I Ain't Marchin' Anymore," "I'm Going to Say It Now," and "Draft Dodger Rag," were important in crystalizing support for the anti-war and student movements. Ochs' contemporaries were Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, among others, and his songs were sung and recorded by many folk singers. But while Baez and Dylan went on to great fame and success, Ochs remained a radical activist and performer, referring to himself as a "topical singer" rather than a folk singer.

Although Ochs recorded an impressive body of material, popular success never touched him after the folk scene dissipa-

ted in the mid-sixties. He developed and refined his song-writing, frequently recording long and involved metaphorical songs such as "When In Rome" and "Pleasures of the Harbor." In 1970, recognizing the need for the movement to develop new ways of reaching a mass audience, Ochs attempted to develop a new stage act. He appeared in concert at Carnegie Hall in an Elvis Presley-style gold suit, and sang a blend of old rock and roll songs, country-western music, and his own protest ballads. Although the idea seemed good ("I'm Elvis bringing the Viet Cong to America," Ochs said), it resulted in critical and financial disaster, and Ochs retired from the recording world, continuing to play at movement benefits and rallies, but only occasionally touring or playing clubs.

Phil Ochs dedicated much of his life to building and supporting the radical movement in this country. He played at hundreds of rallies, demonstrations and benefits for a wide variety of organizations and causes. Ochs was the only nationally known folk singer who appeared at the Democratic Convention demonstrations in 1968. He helped organize a "War Is Over" demonstration a year earlier, even writing a song for the occasion. Ochs gained publicity in 1974 when his single, "Here's to the



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State of Richard Nixon" (recorded live at Washington's Impeachment Ball) received some brief national airplay. Most recently, Ochs organized a 1974 benefit concert in New York for Chilean refugees which raised over \$30,000, and featured singers such as Bob Dylan, Melanie, Pete Seeger and Arlo Guthrie.

Ironically, one of the last songs Ochs recorded on an album was entitled "No More Songs," which opens with:

Hello, hello, hello, is there  
anybody home?  
I've only called to say I'm sorry.

The drums are in the dawn,  
and all the voices gone.  
And it seems that there are  
no more songs."

Apparently Ochs found it hard to adjust to the changes that the '70s brought to the political scene. He became cynical and depressed, and began drinking heavily. In the liner notes on one of his last albums, Ochs wrote, "I stumble through this paradise, considering several suicides...my responsibilities are done, let them come, let them come."